



DAILY INFORMATION BULLETIN

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MONDAY, JANUARY 14, 1991

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HK NEEDS TO HAVE EFFECTIVE,
EFFICIENT, STRONG ADMINISTRATION: GOVERNOR
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WHAT IS NEEDED IN HONG KONG IS TO HAVE AN EFFECTIVE, EFFICIENT AND STRONG ADMINISTRATION TO MAINTAIN ITS PROSPERITY AND STABILITY, THE GOVERNOR, SIR DAVID WILSON, SAID TODAY (MONDAY).

"THAT MUST MEAN THAT THERE OUGHT TO BE CLEAR-CUT AUTHORITY," SIR DAVID SAID AFTER HIS VISIT TO THE WATER SUPPLIES DEPARTMENT THIS AFTERNOON.

THE GOVERNOR WAS RESPONDING TO A PRESS QUESTION CONCERNING THE ADMINISTRATION OF HONG KONG.

"NOW THERE IS NO DOUBT AT ALL THAT IN EVERY WAY, JOINT DECLARATION AND EVERYTHING, THE RESPONSIBILITY FOR ADMINISTERING HONG KONG UP TO 1997 IS THAT OF BRITAIN AND OF THE PRESENT HONG KONG GOVERNMENT.

"VERY IMPORTANT THAT THOSE LINES OF AUTHORITY SHOULD BE CLEAR AND IT SHOULD ALSO BE QUITE CLEAR THAT WITH THAT RESPONSIBILITY WHICH WE HAVE AS THE GOVERNMENT OF HONG KONG, WE WILL CARRY OUT THAT RESPONSIBILITY AND CARRY IT OUT FULLY FOR THE SAKE OF THE PEOPLE OF HONG KONG, AND FOR THE LONG TERM PROSPERITY OF HONG KONG," THE GOVERNOR SAID.

COMMENTING ON THE RECENT DISCUSSIONS IN PEKING BETWEEN HONG KONG AND CHINA ON THE NEW AIRPORT AND RELATED PROJECTS, SIR DAVID SAID THE RESULTS OF THOSE DISCUSSIONS AND THE WAY IN WHICH THEY WERE CARRIED OUT WAS DISAPPOINTING.

"IT'S NO DOUBT THAT THEY WERE DISAPPOINTING. BUT WHAT ONE'S GOT TO THINK ABOUT IS WHAT IS REALLY IMPORTANT TO HONG KONG AND THERE IS NO DOUBT AT ALL THAT GETTING ON WITH BUILDING LONG TERM INFRASTRUCTURAL PROJECTS, THE THINGS THAT HONG KONG NEEDS, LIKE THE AIRPORT, IS VERY IMPORTANT," HE SAID.

"IF YOU ARE GOING TO BUILD AN AIRPORT, IT TAKES A LONG TIME. SO THERE IS A REAL NEED TO GET ON WITH IT," HE ADDED.

"I HOPE THAT IN THE PROCESS OF DOING THIS WE CAN ALSO GO ON TALKING TO THE CHINESE THROUGH A VARIETY OF CHANNELS SO THAT WE CAN EXPLAIN WHAT WE ARE DOING AND WE CAN IRON OUT ANY PARTICULAR CONCERNS AND WORRIES THAT THEY MAY HAVE," THE GOVERNOR SAID.

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GOVERNOR VISITS WATER SUPPLIES DEPARTMENT

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THE GOVERNOR, SIR DAVID WILSON, VISITED THE WATER SUPPLIES DEPARTMENT TODAY (MONDAY). HE WAS ACCOMPANIED BY THE SECRETARY FOR WORKS, MR KENNETH KWOK.

SIR DAVID VISITED THE DEPARTMENT'S NEW HEADQUARTERS IN WAN CHAI WHERE HE WAS MET BY THE DIRECTOR OF WATER SUPPLIES, MR WONG KWOK-LAI.

HE WAS BRIEFED ON THE STRUCTURE AND OPERATION OF THE DEPARTMENT AND, IN PARTICULAR, ON THE EXPANSION OF FACILITIES TO RECEIVE ADDITIONAL WATER FROM CHINA.

THE FIRST AND MAJOR STAGE OF THESE WORKS IS SCHEDULED FOR COMPLETION IN 1995 AT A COST OF \$1,900 MILLION.

SIR DAVID THEN VISITED THE DEPARTMENT'S BIGGEST WATER TREATMENT WORKS, SITUATED IN SHA TIN WHERE HE WAS BRIEFED ON ITS OPERATIONS AND IMPROVEMENT WORKS BEING CARRIED OUT.

HE TOURED THE CONTROL ROOM, LABORATORY AND THE CHLORINE STORE ROOMS. HE ALSO SAW THE SLUDGE TREATMENT PLANT UNDER CONSTRUCTION.

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UP-TO-DATE INFORMATION ON NATIONALITY SCHEME ISSUED

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IN RESPONSE TO PRESS ENQUIRIES, A GOVERNMENT SPOKESMAN TODAY (MONDAY) ISSUED THE FOLLOWING UP-TO-DATE INFORMATION ON THE BRITISH NATIONALITY SELECTION SCHEME.

A TOTAL OF MORE THAN 1,900 COMPLETED APPLICATION FORMS HAD BEEN RECEIVED BY THE IMMIGRATION DEPARTMENT UP TO LAST SATURDAY (JANUARY 12).

"MORE THAN 226,000 APPLICATION FORMS HAVE BEEN DISTRIBUTED, AND OVER 18,000 COPIES OF VARIOUS REFERENCE MANUALS SOLD," HE SAID.

THE SPOKESMAN ADDED THAT THE IMMIGRATION DEPARTMENT'S SPECIAL HOTLINE ON THE SCHEME HAD BEEN HANDLING AN AVERAGE OF 200 ENQUIRIES A DAY.

THE MAJORITY OF THESE ENQUIRIES WERE ON HOW THE APPLICATION FORMS SHOULD BE COMPLETED.

"ALL THE INDICATIONS ARE THAT PEOPLE ARE CAREFULLY STUDYING THE MANUALS AND MAKING SURE THAT THEIR APPLICATION FORMS ARE COMPLETED CORRECTLY.

"THERE ARE ABOUT SEVEN WEEKS BEFORE THE CURRENT APPLICATION PERIOD ENDS, AND WE EXPECT THE NUMBER OF APPLICATIONS TO PICK UP QUICKLY LATER," HE SAID.

/THE SPOKESMAN

THE SPOKESMAN ADVISED APPLICANTS NOT TO WAIT TILL THE LAST MINUTE, AS AN ORDERLY SUBMISSION OF APPLICATIONS WOULD HELP PROCESSING.

"IN PARTICULAR, APPLICANTS WITH CHILDREN APPROACHING THE AGE OF 18 SHOULD APPLY EARLY, AS ONLY CHILDREN UNDER 18 ON THE DATE OF APPLICATION CAN BE INCLUDED UNDER THE SCHEME," HE SAID.

HE REMINDED APPLICANTS THAT THE DEADLINE OF FEBRUARY 28, 1991 WAS A STATUTORY ONE AND COULD NOT BE CHANGED.

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SEPT EMPLOYMENT, VACANCIES AND PAYROLL STATISTICS RELEASED
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IN SEPTEMBER 1990, EMPLOYMENT IN THE SERVICES SECTOR INCREASED COMPARED WITH SEPTEMBER 1989, WHILE EMPLOYMENT IN MANUFACTURING SECTOR DECREASED, ACCORDING TO FIGURES RELEASED TODAY (MONDAY) BY THE CENSUS AND STATISTICS DEPARTMENT.

THUS THE SHIFT IN EMPLOYMENT FROM MANUFACTURING TO SERVICES CONTINUED.

THERE WERE 730,200 PERSONS ENGAGED IN THE MANUFACTURING SECTOR IN SEPTEMBER 1990, REPRESENTING A DECREASE OF 9.1 PER CENT IN COMPARISON WITH SEPTEMBER 1989.

EMPLOYMENT IN THE WHOLESALE AND RETAIL, IMPORT AND EXPORT TRADES AND RESTAURANTS AND HOTELS SECTOR, AT 814,800 IN SEPTEMBER 1990, WAS 7.5 PER CENT HIGHER THAN IN SEPTEMBER 1989.

EMPLOYMENT IN THE FINANCING, INSURANCE, REAL ESTATE AND BUSINESS SERVICES SECTOR, AT 273,200, WAS UP BY 9.5 PER CENT.

EMPLOYMENT AT CONSTRUCTION SITES INCREASED BY 4.6 PER CENT COMPARED WITH SEPTEMBER 1989.

THE OVERALL EMPLOYMENT FIGURES FOR SEPTEMBER 1990 IN THE SELECTED MAJOR ECONOMIC SECTORS, WITH COMPARISON WITH THE CORRESPONDING FIGURES FOR SEPTEMBER 1989 AND JUNE 1990, ARE AS FOLLOWS:

SELECTED MAJOR SECTORS OF THE ECONOMY	PERSONS ENGAGED (EMPLOYMENT) IN*			PERCENTAGE CHANGE**	
	SEPT 89	JUNE 90	SEPT 90	SEPT 90 ON SEPT 89	SEPT 90 ON JUNE 90
MANUFACTURING	803,000	755,000	730,200	-9.1	-3.3

/CONSTRUCTION (MANUAL

CONSTRUCTION (MANUAL WORKERS AT CONSTRUCTION SITES ONLY)	67,500	70,400	70,700	+4.6	+0.3
WHOLESALE AND RETAIL, IMPORT AND EXPORT TRADES AND RESTAURANTS AND HOTELS	757,700	804,400	814,800	+7.5	+1.3
FINANCING, INSURANCE, REAL ESTATE AND BUSINESS SERVICES	249,500	269,300	273,200	+9.5	+1.5

* FIGURES ARE ROUNDED TO THE NEAREST 100.

** BASED ON UNROUNDED EMPLOYMENT FIGURES.

COMPARING SEPTEMBER 1990 WITH JUNE 1990, EMPLOYMENT IN THE MANUFACTURING SECTOR DECREASED BY 3.3 PER CENT.

HOWEVER, OVER THE SAME PERIOD, EMPLOYMENT IN THE CONSTRUCTION SITES, THE WHOLESALE AND RETAIL, IMPORT AND EXPORT TRADES AND RESTAURANTS AND HOTELS SECTOR AND THE FINANCING, INSURANCE, REAL ESTATE AND BUSINESS SERVICES SECTOR SHOWED AN INCREASE OF 0.3 PER CENT, 1.3 PER CENT AND 1.5 PER CENT RESPECTIVELY.

A DEPARTMENTAL SPOKESMAN SAID THE STATISTICS FOR SELECTED MAJOR SECTORS OF THE ECONOMY IN SEPTEMBER 1990 WERE DERIVED FROM THE QUARTERLY SURVEY OF EMPLOYMENT, VACANCIES AND PAYROLL AND THE QUARTERLY EMPLOYMENT SURVEY OF CONSTRUCTION SITES CONDUCTED BY THE DEPARTMENT.

THESE SECTORS COVER THE MANUFACTURING SECTOR; THE CONSTRUCTION SITES; THE WHOLESALE AND RETAIL, IMPORT AND EXPORT TRADES AND RESTAURANTS AND HOTELS SECTOR; AND THE FINANCING, INSURANCE, REAL ESTATE AND BUSINESS SERVICES SECTOR.

THE QUARTERLY SURVEY OF EMPLOYMENT, VACANCIES AND PAYROLL AND THE QUARTERLY EMPLOYMENT SURVEY OF CONSTRUCTION SITES ALSO PROVIDE VACANCY STATISTICS FOR THE SELECTED MAJOR SECTORS.

THE VACANCY DATA TOGETHER WITH A COMPARISON WITH THE CORRESPONDING FIGURES FOR SEPTEMBER 1989 AND JUNE 1990 ARE AS FOLLOWS:

SELECTED MAJOR SECTORS OF THE ECONOMY	NUMBER OF REPORTED VACANCIES IN *			PERCENTAGE CHANGE**	
	SEPT 89	JUNE 90	SEPT 90	SEPT 90 ON SEPT 89	SEPT 90 ON JUNE 90
MANUFACTURING	43,960	37,410	36,160	-17.7	- 3.3

CONSTRUCTION (MANUAL WORKERS AT CONSTRUCTION SITES ONLY)	4,050	2,160	1,860	-54.1	-13.8
WHOLESALE AND RETAIL, IMPORT AND EXPORT TRADES AND RESTAURANTS AND HOTELS	28,830	27,560	30,000	+ 4.0	+ 8.9
FINANCING, INSURANCE, REAL ESTATE AND BUSINESS SERVICES	10,850	9,530	9,150	-15.7	- 4.0

- * FIGURES ARE ROUNDED TO THE NEAREST 10.
- ** BASED ON UNROUNDED VACANCY FIGURES.

COMPARED WITH SEPTEMBER 1989, THE VACANCY SITUATION SHOWED AN IMPROVEMENT IN MOST MAJOR SECTORS. THE TOTAL NUMBER OF REPORTED VACANCIES IN THE PRIVATE SECTOR DECREASED BY 12.3 PER CENT IN SEPTEMBER 1990 OVER SEPTEMBER 1989.

OVER THE SAME PERIOD, THE NUMBER OF VACANCIES IN THE CONSTRUCTION SITES SHOWED A MARKED DECREASE OF 54.1 PER CENT, WHEREAS THE MANUFACTURING AND THE FINANCING, INSURANCE, REAL ESTATE AND BUSINESS SERVICES SECTORS FELL BY 17.7 PER CENT AND 15.7 PER CENT RESPECTIVELY.

HOWEVER, THE NUMBER OF VACANCIES IN THE WHOLESALE AND RETAIL, IMPORT AND EXPORT TRADES AND RESTAURANTS AND HOTELS SECTORS EXPERIENCED A SMALL INCREASE OF 4.0 PER CENT OVER THE SAME PERIOD.

COMPARED WITH JUNE 1990, AND BEARING IN MIND THE INFLUENCE OF SEASONAL FACTORS, THE NUMBER OF REPORTED VACANCIES IN THE MANUFACTURING AND THE FINANCING, INSURANCE, REAL ESTATE AND BUSINESS SERVICES SECTORS FELL BY 3.3 PER CENT AND 4.0 PER CENT RESPECTIVELY IN SEPTEMBER 1990.

THE NUMBER OF VACANCIES IN THE CONSTRUCTION SITES DECREASED CONSIDERABLY BY 13.8 PER CENT. HOWEVER, THE WHOLESALE AND RETAIL, IMPORT AND EXPORT TRADES, RESTAURANTS AND HOTELS SECTOR SHOWED AN INCREASE OF 8.9 PER CENT OVER THE SAME PERIOD.

ALSO AVAILABLE FROM THE SURVEY OF EMPLOYMENT, VACANCIES AND PAYROLL ARE STATISTICS ON MONTHLY PAYROLL OUTLAYS IN THE MANUFACTURING SECTOR; THE WHOLESALE AND RETAIL, IMPORT AND EXPORT TRADES AND RESTAURANTS AND HOTELS SECTOR; AND THE FINANCING, INSURANCE, REAL ESTATE AND BUSINESS SERVICES SECTOR.

QUARTERLY TOTALS FOR EACH OF THESE SECTORS ARE SHOWN IN THE FOLLOWING TABLE:

SELECTED MAJOR SECTORS OF THE ECONOMY	TOTAL QUARTERLY PAYROLL IN		% CHANGE*
	3RD QTR. 1989	3RD QTR. 1990	3RD QTR. 1990 ON 3RD QTR. 1989
	HK\$ MN	HK\$ MN	
MANUFACTURING	11,125	11,422	+ 2.7
WHOLESALE AND RETAIL, IMPORT AND EXPORT TRADES, RESTAURANTS AND HOTELS	10,446	13,453	+28.8
FINANCING, INSURANCE, REAL ESTATE AND BUSINESS SERVICES	5,698	7,049	+23.7

* BASED ON UNROUNDED PAYROLL FIGURES.

COMPARED WITH THE SAME QUARTER A YEAR AGO, PAYROLL OUTLAYS IN THE ABOVE THREE SECTORS INCREASED BY 2.7 PER CENT, 28.8 PER CENT AND 23.7 PER CENT RESPECTIVELY IN THE THIRD QUARTER OF 1990.

AFTER ADJUSTMENT FOR VARIATIONS IN TOTAL MONTHLY PAYROLL OUTLAYS IN SEPTEMBER 1989 AND SEPTEMBER 1990, ARISING FROM CHANGES IN THE LEVEL OF EMPLOYMENT, A NOMINAL INDEX OF PAYROLL PER PERSON ENGAGED IS OBTAINED.

TO ALLOW FOR THE EFFECTS OF PRICE CHANGES, THE NOMINAL INDEX IS DEFLATED BY THE CONSUMER PRICE INDEX (A) TO GIVE THE REAL INDEX OF PAYROLL PER PERSON ENGAGED. THESE TWO INDICES FOR SEPTEMBER 1989 AND SEPTEMBER 1990 ARE GIVEN IN THE TABLES BELOW :

SELECTED MAJOR SECTORS OF THE ECONOMY	NOMINAL INDEX OF PAYROLL PER PERSON ENGAGED (JUNE 1980 = 100)		% CHANGE
	SEPT 89	SEPT 90	SEPT 90 ON SEPT 89
MANUFACTURING	321.7	364.0	+13.1
WHOLESALE AND RETAIL, IMPORT AND EXPORT TRADES, RESTAURANTS AND HOTELS	303.5	361.4	+19.1

/FINANCING, INSURANCE

FINANCING, INSURANCE, REAL ESTATE AND BUSINESS SERVICES	295.3	333.1	+12.8
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REAL INDEX OF
PAYROLL PER PERSON ENGAGED
(JUNE 1980 = 100)

SELECTED MAJOR SECTORS OF THE ECONOMY	REAL INDEX OF PAYROLL PER PERSON ENGAGED (JUNE 1980 = 100)		% CHANGE
	SEPT 89	SEPT 90	SEPT 90 ON SEPT 89
MANUFACTURING	154.9	159.7	+3.1
WHOLESALE AND RETAIL, IMPORT AND EXPORT TRADES, RESTAURANTS AND HOTELS	146.1	158.6	+8.6
FINANCING, INSURANCE, REAL ESTATE AND BUSINESS SERVICES	142.2	146.2	+2.8

BETWEEN SEPTEMBER 1989 AND SEPTEMBER 1990, AN INCREASE OF 13.1 PER CENT WAS REGISTERED IN THE NOMINAL INDEX OF PAYROLL PER PERSON ENGAGED IN THE MANUFACTURING SECTOR.

FOR THE WHOLESALE AND RETAIL, IMPORT AND EXPORT TRADES AND RESTAURANTS AND HOTELS SECTOR, THE INCREASE WAS 19.1 PER CENT AND FOR THE FINANCING, INSURANCE, REAL ESTATE AND BUSINESS SERVICES SECTOR, THE INCREASE WAS 12.8 PER CENT.

SALARY REVISION WAS REPORTED AS THE MAIN REASON FOR THE INCREASE IN PAYROLL PER PERSON ENGAGED OVER THIS PERIOD.

OVER THE SAME PERIOD, THE REAL INDEX OF PAYROLL PER PERSON ENGAGED REGISTERED AN INCREASE OF 3.1 PER CENT FOR THE MANUFACTURING SECTOR, 8.6 PER CENT FOR THE WHOLESALE AND RETAIL, IMPORT AND EXPORT TRADES AND RESTAURANTS AND HOTELS SECTOR, AND 2.8 PER CENT FOR THE FINANCING, INSURANCE, REAL ESTATE AND BUSINESS SERVICES SECTOR.

DETAILED BREAKDOWNS OF THE ABOVE STATISTICS ARE AVAILABLE FROM THE QUARTERLY REPORT OF EMPLOYMENT, VACANCIES AND PAYROLL STATISTICS, SEPTEMBER 1990 AND THE QUARTERLY REPORT OF EMPLOYMENT AND VACANCIES AT CONSTRUCTION SITES, SEPTEMBER, 1990.

THEY ARE NOW AVAILABLE AT \$11 PER COPY AND \$7.5 PER COPY RESPECTIVELY AT THE GOVERNMENT PUBLICATIONS CENTRE, GROUND FLOOR, GPO BUILDING, CONNAUGHT PLACE, CENTRAL AND AT THE SALES COUNTER OF THE CENSUS AND STATISTICS DEPARTMENT AT 19TH FLOOR, WANCHAI TOWER 1, 12 HARBOUR ROAD, WAN CHAI.

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PARENTS URGED NOT TO LEAVE THEIR CHILDREN UNATTENDED AT HOME
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MEMBERS OF THE SOCIAL WELFARE ADVISORY COMMITTEE (SWAC) THIS (MONDAY) AFTERNOON EXPRESSED CONCERN OVER THE RECENT TRAGEDY DURING WHICH FOUR CHILDREN DIED IN A FIRE IN A HOM MAN TIN FLAT.

AT ITS MEETING, SWAC MEMBERS URGED PARENTS NOT TO LEAVE THEIR CHILDREN UNATTENDED AT HOME.

THE CHAIRMAN OF SWAC, MRS ROSANNA TAM SAID: "IT IS THE REponsibility OF PARENTS TO ENSURE THE SAFETY OF THEIR CHILDREN. SHOULD THEY HAVE DIFFICULTIES IN LOOKING AFTER THEIR CHILDREN, THEY SHOULD MAKE USE OF THE OCCASIONAL CHILD CARE SERVICE OR REQUEST ASSISTANCE FROM THEIR NEIGHBOURS."

SWAC MEMBERS GENERALLY FELT THAT THERE WERE DIFFICUTIES IN ENFORCING LAW TO PROHIBIT PARENTS FROM LEAVING THEIR CHILDREN UNATTENDED AT HOME. HOWEVER, THEY RECOMMENDED THAT CONCERNED DEPARTMENTS SHOULD STEP UP PUBLICITY EFFORTS TO EDUCATE THE PUBLIC NOT TO LEAVE THEIR CHILDREN UNATTENDED AT HOME.

THE MEMBERS WILL REVIEW, BASED ON THE INFORMATION PROVIDED BY THE SOCIAL WELFARE DEPARTMENT, THE FEASIBILITY OF INTRODUCING LEGISLATION TO PREVENT PARENTS TO LEAVE THEIR CHILDREN UNATTENDED AT HOME AS SOON AS POSSIBLE.

THEY ALSO AGREED THAT THE OCCASIONAL CHILD CARE SERVICE SHOULD BE CLOSELY MONITORED, IMPROVED AND SUGGESTED OPERATORS TO EXERCISE A GREATER FLEXIBILTY IN PROVIDING THE SERVICE.

THE ASSISTANT DIRECTOR OF SOCIAL WELFARE, MRS PATRICIA CHU, TOLD THE MEMBERS THAT THE OCCASIONAL CHILD CARE SERVICE, BEING A PILOT SCHEME, WAS IN OPERATION IN 15 CHILD CARE CENTRES TERRITORY-WIDE.

SINCE THE IMPLEMENTATION OF THE PROJECT, CONSIDERABLE PUBLICITY, INCLUDING PRESS RELEASES, PRESS INTERVIEWS, LEAFLETS AND RADIO APIS (ANNOUNCEMENTS OF PUBLIC INTEREST), HAD BEEN MADE, MRS CHU NOTED.

"WORKING IN HAND IS A TV API TO ADVISE PARENTS NOT TO LEAVE THEIR CHILDREN UNATTENDED," SHE SAID.

ON SCHOOL SOCIAL WORK SERVICE, THE MEMBERS MAINTAINED THAT THE MANNING RATIO SHOULD BE ONE SCHOOL SOCIAL WORKER TO 2,000 STUDENTS. THE EXISTING MANNING RATIO IS ONE TO 3,000.

THE COMMITTEE ALSO RECOMMENDED IN THE 1992/93 RESOURCE ALLOCATION EXERCISE, HIGHER PRIORITY SHOULD BE ACCORDED TO LOWER THE MANNING RATIO TO ONE SCHOOL SOCIAL WORKER PER 2,500 STUDENTS, AND THE TARGET SHOULD BE REACHED AS SOON AS POSSIBLE.

MEMBERS ALSO ENDORSED A PACKAGE TO IMPROVE THE ACCIDENT COMPENSATION SCHEMES WHICH COMPRISED OF THE CRIMINAL AND LAW ENFORCEMENT INJURIES COMPENSATION, TRAFFIC ACCIDENT VICTIMS ASSISTANCE AND EMERGENCY RELIEF FUND.

/THE ESTIMATED

THE ESTIMATED FINANCIAL IMPLICATION OF THESE CHANGES FOR A FULL FINANCIAL YEAR WOULD BE \$7.6 MILLION.

SWAC MEMBERS WERE INFORMED THAT THE FINANCE COMMITTEE'S APPROVAL OF FUNDS TO IMPLEMENT THESE CHANGES WOULD BE SOUGHT WITHIN THE CURRENT FISCAL YEAR.

THE IMPROVEMENT PACKAGE INCLUDED:

- * EXTENSION OF PAYMENT PERIOD OF INJURY GRANT FROM 90 DAYS TO 180 DAYS WITH REVISED DAILY RATES;
- * EXTENSION OF PAYMENT PERIOD OF INTERIM MAINTENANCE GRANT FROM THREE MONTHS TO SIX MONTHS;
- * SAVINGS FROM DISCONTINUING OF PAYMENT OF INTERIM MAINTENANCE GRANT IN CASES WHERE DEATH GRANT IS PAYABLE;
- * REVISION OF RATE OF BURIAL GRANT; AND
- * ENHANCEMENT OF GRANTS FOR VICTIMS HELPING IN FIGHTING CRIME UNDER THE CRIMINAL AND LAW ENFORCEMENT INJURIES COMPENSATION SCHEME.

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LEGCO TO MEET ON WEDNESDAY

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MEMBERS OF THE LEGISLATIVE COUNCIL WILL ASK A TOTAL OF FOUR QUESTIONS AND CONSIDER FOUR GOVERNMENT BILLS AND ONE PRIVATE BILL AT THE COUNCIL'S MEETING ON WEDNESDAY (JANUARY 16).

THE FIVE BILLS WILL BE INTRODUCED FOR FIRST AND SECOND READINGS.

THE FOUR GOVERNMENT BILLS ARE SECURITIES (AMENDMENT) BILL 1990, PROTECTION OF INVESTORS (AMENDMENT) BILL 1990, COMMODITY EXCHANGES (PROHIBITION) (AMENDMENT) BILL 1990 AND COMMODITIES TRADING (AMENDMENT) (NO. 2) BILL 1990; WHILE THE PRIVATE BILL IS THE ELECTORAL PROVISIONS (AMENDMENT) BILL 1991.

DEBATE ON THESE BILLS WILL BE ADJOURNED.

IN ADDITION, THE SECRETARY FOR SECURITY WILL MOVE A MOTION UNDER THE DRUG TRAFFICKING (RECOVERY OF PROCEEDS) ORDINANCE, WHILE THE HON SELINA CHOW WILL MOVE A MOTION UNDER THE EDUCATION COMMISSION REPORT NO. 4.

MEMBERS OF THE PUBLIC ARE WELCOME TO OBSERVE THE PROCEEDINGS OF THE LEGISLATIVE COUNCIL MEETING FROM THE PUBLIC GALLERIES AND THEY MAY MAKE RESERVATIONS BY TELEPHONING 844 0899.

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NEW COMPUTER SYSTEM TO ANALYSE TRAFFIC ACCIDENT DATA

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A NEW COMPUTER SYSTEM FOR STATISTICAL ANALYSIS OF TRAFFIC ACCIDENT DATA BY THE ROAD SAFETY AND STANDARDS DIVISION OF THE TRANSPORT DEPARTMENT AND THE POLICE HAS COME INTO OPERATION RECENTLY.

AN ENGINEER OF THE ROAD SAFETY AND STANDARDS DIVISION, MR LEUNG TAK-FAI, SAID TODAY (MONDAY) THAT THE TRAFFIC ACCIDENT DATA SYSTEM (TRADS) WAS A DISTRIBUTED MICRO-COMPUTER BASED SYSTEM PROVIDING MEANS AND FACILITIES FOR THE STATISTICAL ANALYSIS OF TRAFFIC ACCIDENT DATA.

"THE SYSTEM IS DEVELOPED WITH THE OBJECTIVE OF IMPROVING THE EXISTING COMPUTERISED RECORDS ON TRAFFIC ACCIDENT DATA; AND TO FACILITATE INTERACTIVE ENTRY, EDIT AND FLEXIBLE SELECTION OF THE DATA.

"THE SYSTEM WILL ALSO FACILITATE STATISTICAL ANALYSIS OF TERRITORY-WIDE TRAFFIC ACCIDENT DATA AND DATA COLLECTION ANALYSIS UNDER THE PEDESTRIAN ACCIDENT REDUCTION SCHEME," HE SAID.

MR LEUNG ADDED THAT INVESTIGATION WORK DONE BY TRANSPORT DEPARTMENT STAFF COULD BE GREATLY ENHANCED AND MORE TIME COULD BE SPENT BY POLICE IN INVESTIGATING ACCIDENTS, INSTEAD OF RECORDING TIME.

MORE UP-TO-DATE ACCIDENT INFORMATION COULD BE MADE AVAILABLE TO BOTH THE OFFICERS INVESTIGATING ACCIDENTS AND TO THE MEMBERS OF OMELCO, DISTRICT BOARDS AND THE GENERAL PUBLIC.

INPUT AND VALIDATION OF ACCIDENT DATA COULD BE DONE WITHIN TWO DAYS INSTEAD OF THE PRESENT TWO TO THREE WEEKS, HE ADDED.

ELABORATING ON THE APPLICATION OF THE COMPUTER SYSTEM IN PROMOTING ROAD SAFETY, A SENIOR ENGINEER, MR CHING KAM-CHEONG, SAID THE FINAL PRODUCT OF TRADS WAS AN ACCIDENT DATA BANK FROM WHICH ACCIDENT INFORMATION COULD BE RETRIEVED AND ANALYSED TO PROVIDE THE BASIS FOR ACCIDENT INVESTIGATION AND PREVENTION AND PROMOTING ROAD SAFETY.

"FROM ITS ACCIDENT DATA BANK, THE COMPUTER REGULARLY PRODUCES LISTS OF LOCATIONS (ACCIDENT BLACK SITES) WHICH ARE CATEGORISED BY NAME AND NUMBER OF ACCIDENTS OCCURRING.

"FROM THESE LISTS, SITES WITH SEVERE ACCIDENT PROBLEMS CAN BE IDENTIFIED AND STUDIED ON A PRIORITY BASIS, WORST SITES BEING DEALT WITH FIRST.

"WHEN STUDIES INDICATE A COMMON FACTOR IN A NUMBER OF THE ACCIDENTS OCCURRING AT A PARTICULAR LOCATION, IT IS OFTEN POSSIBLE FOR THE ROAD SAFETY ENGINEER TO PROPOSE REMEDIAL MEASURES AIMED AT REDUCING THESE COMMON-FACTOR ACCIDENTS," HE SAID.

/IN PROMOTING

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IN PROMOTING ROAD SAFETY, MR CHING ADDED THAT ANALYSIS OF THE ACCIDENT DATA HIGHLIGHTS THOSE GROUPS IN THE COMMUNITY WHO WERE MOST AT RISK ON THE ROAD OR THOSE CATEGORIES OF VEHICLES WHICH WERE INVOLVED IN MOST ROAD ACCIDENTS.

ROAD SAFETY PUBLICITY CAMPAIGNS AND LEGISLATION WERE THEREFORE AIMED AT THESE GROUPS FOR THE GREATEST EFFECTIVENESS TOWARDS CORRECTING THE PROBLEM, HE SAID.

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RATEPAYERS GIVEN REMINDER ON FIRST QUARTER PAYMENT

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RATEPAYERS SHOULD BY NOW HAVE RECEIVED DEMAND NOTES FOR RATES FOR THE QUARTER JANUARY 1 TO MARCH 31, 1991 WHICH ARE DEMANDED IN ACCORDANCE WITH THE RATING ORDINANCE; A SPOKESMAN FOR THE TREASURY SAID TODAY (MONDAY).

ANY RATEPAYER WHO HAS NOT RECEIVED A DEMAND NOTE MAY BRING A RATES DEMAND NOTE FOR ANY PREVIOUS QUARTER AND MAKE PAYMENT AT ANY OF THE FOLLOWING OFFICES:

- * THE TREASURY HEADQUARTERS COLLECTION AND PAYMENT OFFICE, WANCHAI TOWER II, FIRST FLOOR, 7 GLOUCESTER ROAD, WAN CHAI, HONG KONG;
- * THE CENTRAL SUB-TREASURY, CENTRAL GOVERNMENT OFFICES (WEST WING), 11 ICE HOUSE STREET, (SIDE ENTRANCE TO THE BUILDING IN ICE HOUSE STREET), HONG KONG;
- * THE NORTH POINT SUB-TREASURY, ODEON BUILDING, FIRST FLOOR, 28 SHU KUK STREET, NORTH POINT, HONG KONG;
- * THE YAU MA TEI SUB-TREASURY, KOWLOON GOVERNMENT OFFICES, FOURTH FLOOR, 405 NATHAN ROAD, (MARKET STREET ENTRANCE), KOWLOON;
- * THE KOWLOON CITY SUB-TREASURY, MAN SANG COMMERCIAL BUILDING, FIRST FLOOR, 348-352 PRINCE EDWARD ROAD (CORNER OF PRINCE EDWARD ROAD AND JUNCTION ROAD), KOWLOON.

ANY RATEPAYER WHO HAS NOT RECEIVED A DEMAND NOTE AND CANNOT PRODUCE A RATES DEMAND NOTE FOR ANY PREVIOUS QUARTER SHOULD INQUIRE FORTHWITH AT THE TREASURY RATES SECTION, WANCHAI TOWER II, 30TH FLOOR, 7 GLOUCESTER ROAD, HONG KONG.

NON-RECEIPT OF THE DEMAND NOTE DOES NOT ALTER THE REQUIREMENT THAT THE RATES MUST BE PAID BY 4 PM ON JANUARY 31, 1991 AND UNLESS SO PAID MAY BE SUBJECT TO A SURCHARGE OF FIVE PER CENT IMPOSED UNDER SECTION 22 OF THE RATING ORDINANCE.

A FURTHER SURCHARGE OF 10 PER CENT MAY BE ADDED TO ACCOUNTS (INCLUDING THE NORMAL FIVE PER CENT SURCHARGE) WHICH REMAIN UNPAID SIX MONTHS AFTER THE DUE DATE.

/RATEPAYERS WHO

MONDAY, JANUARY 14, 1991

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RATEPAYERS WHO HAVE SUBMITTED A VALID DIRECT DEBIT AUTHORISATION SHOULD NOTE THAT PAYMENT SHOULD BE MADE BY POST OR IN PERSON AS STIPULATED IN THE DEMAND NOTE UNLESS THE WORDING "PAYMENT TO BE MADE BY AUTOPAY" IS SHOWN IN THE DEMAND NOTE.

IN THIS CASE THEIR PAYMENT OF RATES WILL BE MADE BY DIRECT DEBIT TO THEIR BANK ACCOUNTS ON JANUARY 31, 1991. RATEPAYERS SHOULD ENSURE THAT THEIR BANK ACCOUNTS CONTAIN THE NECESSARY FUNDS ON THAT DATE.

RATES ARE PAYABLE ON VACANT PROPERTIES BUT ARE REFUNDABLE UNDER THE CONDITIONS SPECIFIED IN SECTION 30 OF THE ORDINANCE.

UNDER SECTIONS 30 (1A) AND (2A), HOWEVER, NO REFUNDS WILL BE PAYABLE IN THE CASE OF A VACANT TENEMENT LAST USED OR INTENDED TO BE USED WHOLLY OR PRIMARILY FOR DOMESTIC PURPOSES OR FOR THE PARKING OF VEHICLES (UNLESS VACANT BY REASON OF AN ORDER OF THE GOVERNMENT).

TO AVOID THE POSSIBLE INCONVENIENCE OF QUEUEING, RATEPAYERS ARE URGED TO PAY BY CHEQUE OR MONEY ORDER SENT BY POST OR BY EARLY PERSONAL ATTENDANCE AT ANY OF THE OFFICES LISTED ON THE BACK OF THE DEMAND NOTE.

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MAKING MALICIOUS REPORT AGAINST POLICE AN OFFENCE

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POLICE TODAY (MONDAY) REITERATED THAT MAKING A MALICIOUS REPORT AGAINST POLICE WOULD RESULT IN SEVERE PUNISHMENT, INCLUDING IMPRISONMENT.

CITING A RECENT COURT CASE, A POLICE SPOKESMAN SAID THAT A 32-YEAR-OLD MAN, WHO WAS ARRESTED BY TSUEN WAN SPECIAL DUTIES SQUAD OFFICERS FOR POSSESSION OF DANGEROUS DRUG IN JUNE LAST YEAR, MADE A REPORT TO THE COMPLAINTS AGAINST POLICE OFFICE (CAPO) THAT HE WAS ASSAULTED BY THE ARRESTING OFFICERS AND THAT THE ARREST WAS BASED ON FABRICATED EVIDENCE.

THE ARRESTED PERSON WAS CONVICTED OF POSSESSION OF DANGEROUS DRUG FOR UNLAWFUL TRAFFICKING AND WAS SENTENCED TO NINE MONTHS' IMPRISONMENT IN AUGUST LAST YEAR.

FOLLOWING IN-DEPTH INVESTIGATION, CAPO OFFICERS FOUND THAT THE DEFENDENT'S ACCUSATION WAS FALSE AND THEREFORE CHARGED HIM WITH CAUSING WASTEFUL EMPLOYMENT OF POLICE.

HE WAS CONVICTED OF THE OFFENCE AND WAS SENTENCED TO SIX MONTHS' IMPRISONMENT IN TSUEN WAN MAGISTRACY ON JANUARY 12.

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CARNIVAL FOR ELDERLY IN SHAM SHUI PO

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RESIDENTS IN THE SHAM SHUI PO DISTRICT WHO ARE OVER THE AGE OF 60 ARE WELCOME TO TAKE PART IN A CARNIVAL ON SATURDAY (JANUARY 19) AT THE BUDDHIST TAI HUNG COLLEGE IN SO UK ESTATE.

IT WILL BE HELD FROM 2 PM TO 5 PM.

ORGANISED BY THE SHAM SHUI PO DISTRICT BOARD'S WORKING GROUP ON PREFERENTIAL SCHEMES FOR THE ELDERLY, THE CARNIVAL WILL INCLUDE A CANTONESE OPERA SHOW AND STALL GAMES WHICH AIM AT GIVING PARTICIPANTS SOME GENERAL KNOWLEDGE ABOUT HEALTH CARE.

FREE ADMISSION TICKETS ARE NOW AVAILABLE AT THE SHAM SHUI PO DISTRICT OFFICE AND ITS SUB-OFFICES.

OFFICIATING AT THE OCCASION WILL BE THE SHAM SHUI PO DISTRICT BOARD CHAIRMAN, MR TAI TUNG-NGOK; DISTRICT SOCIAL WELFARE OFFICER, MISS JOY CHAN; AND ASSISTANT DISTRICT OFFICER, MRS AVA CHAN.

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ATTENTION NEWS EDITORS:

MEDIA REPRESENTATIVES ARE INVITED TO COVER THE SHAM SHUI PO CARNIVAL FOR THE ELDERLY WHICH WILL BE HELD ON SATURDAY (JANUARY 19), FROM 2 PM TO 5 PM AT THE BUDDHIST TAI HUNG COLLEGE, SO UK ESTATE.

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TWO UNAUTHORISED BUILDING WORKS TO BE CLOSED

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THE BUILDINGS AND LANDS DEPARTMENT IS SEEKING TO CLOSE TWO UNAUTHORISED BUILDING WORKS SO THAT THEY CAN BE DEMOLISHED WITHOUT DANGER TO THE OCCUPIERS AND THE PUBLIC.

A NOTICE OF INTENTION TO APPLY FOR A CLOSURE ORDER TO CLOSE THE ILLEGAL BUILDING ADJOINING THE KITCHEN OF THE SEVENTH FLOOR OF 89 HENNESSY ROAD, WAN CHAI FROM THE HONG KONG DISTRICT COURT ON MARCH 14, WAS POSTED ON THE STRUCTURE TODAY (MONDAY).

ANOTHER NOTICE OF INTENTION TO APPLY FOR A CLOSURE ORDER ON THE UNAUTHORISED BUILDING WORKS AT FLAT I ON THE FIFTH FLOOR OF CHEONG FUNG MANSION, 85-95 TONG MEI ROAD AND 2-16 TUNG CHAU STREET, KOWLOON FROM THE HONG KONG DISTRICT COURT ON MARCH 22 WAS ALSO POSTED TODAY ON THE AFFECTED PREMISES.

UNDER THE BUILDINGS ORDINANCE, A CLOSURE ORDER IS REQUIRED BEFORE DEMOLITION CAN BE CARRIED OUT.

IT IS EXPECTED THAT DEMOLITION WORK ON THE ILLEGAL STRUCTURES WILL BE CARRIED OUT ONCE THE CLOSURE ORDERS ARE OBTAINED.

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